G. R. S. IX-5]

Previous references.

1920.

(Sanitary)

File No. 31-20

Serial Nos. [illegible]

Notes

Later references.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos. (Notes)

Part B for August 1920

SUBJECT.

Points raised in the Financial Review for the half year ending 31.12.19
re. Inland Improvement.

WD 2233—GPB—20,000—14-6-20

G. R. S. III—1] 1920-21

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

(Lands)

NOTES.

File No. 31-20

FILE HEADING.

Points raised with Financial review for the half year ending 31-12-1919 re. Madras Improvement Scheme.

From

No.	Dated		Received
Diary No.	Enclos.	Spare Copies.	Serial No.

BRIEF ABSTRACT OF LETTER.

NOTES AND ORDERS.

NOTES—First Sheet.

P. T. O.

3103

G.R.S. III—3]

Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

Points raised ~~by the~~ Financial Review for the half-year ending December 1919

File of papers relating to the M. I. scheme submitted for perusal.

Hd Clk 24.8.20 — 24.8.20

DCS 25/8/20.

25/8/20

III
PROTECTION BRANCH.
25 AUG 1920

N.B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form.

G. R. S. III-2]

General and Revenue Secretariat. | File No. of 191

5

D.O. letter No. 3.51 dated 24th April 1920 from the Huzur Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja to the Dewan of Mysore.

Kindly refer to the Financial Review for the half year ending 31st December 1919, submitted by you for His Highness's perusal.

His Highness will be obliged if you will kindly furnish him with full information on the following matters which the Financial Secretary refers to in the course of his review :-

x x x x

3. (b) Under the head Mahsul Improvement also, little progress seems to have been made judging by the amount of the money spent on these works. His Highness, however, understands that the whole scheme is being studied afresh with a view to making it more practicable and useful. From what he saw of the Committee's work, during his recent tour in the Shimoga District, he was not much impressed by it - though some good has no doubt been accomplished.

His Highness would be glad if to have information in regard to all these questions referred to above, if possible, by the end of next month.

D.O. No. 731 dated 3rd May 1920 from the Dewan of Mysore to the Third Member of Council.

With reference to the remarks of the Financial Secretary in his quarterly reviews for the half year ending December 1919, His Highness has been pleased to direct that full particulars should be submitted in connection with the following before the end of the current month:-

(Here enter extract 3 (b) from the Huzur Secretary's letter referred to above)

I shall be glad if you will go into the question at once and favour me with a note before the 25th instant.

4

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT,

Dated, ~~Bangalore~~, Camp Mysore 29-5-1920

dear Sir,

With reference to your D. O. letter of the 3rd instan calling for a note upon 'the Malnad Improvement Scheme,' I beg to invite your kind attention to my note on the subject dated 27th August 1919 which I prepared after a tour into some parts of the Districts of Hassan, Kadur and Shimoga in the months of March, May and June 1919. In that note, a copy of which is hereto appended, I have reviewed the operations of the Malnad Improvement Committee from its inception in 1914 up to the date of the writing of the note and pointed out the defects of the scheme and the directions in which they can be remedied. Para of the note deals with the measures passed by the Government from time to time and para 8 gives a brief summary of the results achieved.

2. In accordance with the suggestions contained in the note referred to above, the Central Committee has been reconstituted with a Member of the Government as Chairman to co-ordinate the work of the District Committees and the District Committees have been remodelled. The separate supervising agency established to conduct the operations has been abolished and the work entrusted to the various departments - Revenue, Medical, Sanitary Engineering &c., - in matters pertaining to these departments.

3. The new Central Committee was constituted in Government Order No.G.13757-67-San.8-19-5 dated 12th December 1919 and it held its first meeting at Bangalore on 13th March 1920. A copy of the proceedings of the meeting is herein enclosed for perusal. Much of the unnecessary establishment has been curtailed, the special allowances given to the several officers have been

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abolished and suggestions made for regulating the relations between the Malnad Improvement Committee and the District Boards.

4. A sum of Rs.1,55,000 has been provided in the next year's budget. Out of this a sum of about Rs.55,000 is allotted for establishment which at present consists of midwives, vaccinators, overseers &c. There is thus a sum of Rs.1,00,000 left for works of public utility such as sinking of wells, construction of drains draining of swampy lands &c. Up till now the operations of the Committee have been diffused, spreading as they do over a vast area far beyond the resources of the Committee to tackle with successfully. As stated in para 15 of my note, the proper course to adopt is to concentrate our attention on a few notoriously unhealthy or backward places and employ all our resources in their improvement and economic development. The result then will be quite preceptible and will serve as an object lesson to other places.

5. This is a question of time and money and if requisite funds are forthcoming, I hope to be able to show substantial progress, with the aid of the new Committee in the course of a few years.

Yours sincerely,

M. Kantaraj Urs

To

Rajaseva Dhurina

Sirdar M. Kantaraj Urs, B.A., C.S.I.,

Dewan of Mysore.

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D.C.No. 85 dated 27th July 1920 from the Dewan of Mysore to the Private Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

With reference to your letter No. C. 51 dated the 24th April ~~19~~ calling for further information on some of the points raised by the Financial Secretary in his Financial Review for the half year ending December 1919, I forward, for favour of submission to His Highness, the Demi-official letters together with connected records from the First and Third members of Council in regard to subjects under their charge.

x x x x

DO.No. 38 dated from the Huzur Secretary to His Highness to the Maharaja of Mysore to the Dewan of Mysore.

I am desired to return, with thanks, three files, sent with ~~xx~~ your D.O. letter No. 85 dated the 26th July 1920, after submission ~~xxxx~~ to His Highness.

" E X T R A CT "

24.8.20

THE MALNAD IMPROVEMENT SCHEME.

The decrease of population in the Malnad and the consequent decline in the prosperity of the country having attracted the attention of Government, it was considered necessary to take special measures for the improvement of the Malnad and Mr. K. Matthan was placed on special duty to submit proposals to this end after making an extensive tour in the Malnad Districts and examining the conditions on the spot. Mr. Matthan's report was received in August 1913 and in the following February, Government passed orders sanctioning a scheme for the purpose and defining the areas to be brought under its operations.

2. The measures indicated in the scheme for the improvement of these tracts were:—

(1) the clearing of rank vegetation within a radius of half a mile from every inhabited area,
(2) the sinking of wells for the supply of good drinking water,
(3) the offer of facilities to cultivators to obtain timber for building,
(4) the improvement of drainage and the prevention of wet cultivation in the vicinity of inhabited areas,
(5) the keeping of cattle out of human dwellings by providing separate sheds for them,
(6) the circulation of leaflets to spread sound ideas among the people regarding sanitation, personal hygiene, etc.

3. A small Committee consisting of not more than nine members, including selected non-official gentlemen not exceeding three in number, was directed to be formed in each of the Districts of Shimoga, Kadur and Hassan, with the Deputy Commissioners of the respective Districts as Chairmen, for giving practical effect to the measures specified above and for developing other schemes of permanent improvement.

4. A Special Revenue Officer was appointed to be in charge of the Malnad Improvement operations under the direction of the Committees, assisted by an officer of the Sanitary Department, and to act as Secretary to each of the three Committees, with headquarters at Shimoga. A staff of 5 Overseers and 14 Sub-Overseers was sanctioned for executing the works undertaken by the Committees.

5. In order to ensure proper co-ordination of work and uniformity of operations in all the three Districts, the three Committees were required to meet at a central place once every quarter under the presidency of the senior Deputy Commissioner for discussing all important questions connected with the several schemes. The Committees and their Secretaries were given certain independent powers of sanction in regard to the execution of works and the entertainment and distribution of the staff.

6. The Departments of Government concerned were

also required to take the initiative and formulate suitable schemes, in consultation with the Malnad Improvement Committees wherever necessary, for conducting malarial surveys and researches, for promoting literary and industrial education and for taking steps for the proper preservation of the health of the school-going children, for the encouragement and development of indigenous industries and for fostering co-operative enterprise.

7. The scheme as thus outlined at its inception has since been modified and its scope widened from time to time in certain particulars:

(1) Several additions have been made to the areas included within its purview.

(2) The annual grant for the scheme, which was fixed originally at Rs. one lakh was increased to Rs. 1½ lakhs from 1916-17 and it has been further enhanced to Rs. 2 lakhs for the quinquennium from 1st July 1918.

(3) The maximum strength of the Committees was increased from 9 to 12 in July 1914 and their present composition is as follows:—

	Members.	
	Official.	*Non-official.*
Shimoga District Committee	9	5
Kadur „ „	10	4
Hassan „	10	3
Central Committee	12	2

(4) In August 1914, another Special Revenue Officer was appointed for the Districts of Kadur and Hassan, the officer originally appointed remaining in charge of the Shimoga District only. These special appointments have been lately abolished. One of the Assistant Commissioners attached to the respective Districts now does the duties of Secretary to each of the District Committees in addition to the duties of his regular charge, and the Sub-Division Officers have been made responsible for Malnad Improvement work in their respective jurisdictions.

The bifurcation of the District Sanitary charge of the Shimoga and Kadur Districts between the District Sanitary Officer and the District Medical Officer, the former for the Malnad portion and the latter for the rest of the District, which was ordered in March 1914, was done away with in August of the same year and the District Sanitary Officers of these districts were entrusted with the Sanitary charge of the entire District and the Assistant Surgeon in charge of the Local Fund Dispensary at Saklespur was made the special Sanitary Officer for the Malnad portions of the Hassan District.

(5) The concessions to agriculturists under the Malnad Raiyats' Special Privilege Rules have been extended to non-agriculturists in the Malnad.

(6) Greater facilities have been afforded for the Malnad raiyats securing suitable building sites by authorising the grant therefor of *gomal* and other lands reserved for communal purposes, under certain conditions.

(7) The Village Sanitation Rules have been introduced into all the villages dealt with under the Malnad Improvement Scheme, irrespective of the number of houses contained therein

(8) The construction of Model Houses, 8 in the Shimoga District, 5 in the Kadur and 3 in the Hassan District, after approved designs, for sale at cost price to be recovered in easy instalments, has been sanctioned.

(9) A scheme of itinerant and semi-itinerant Dispensaries has been introduced.

(10) Provision has been made for the training of Compounders, Midwives and Vaccinators specially for the Malnad.

(11) Concessions by way of grant of arable land, building materials, and cash advances for the purchase of agricultural stock and implements have been sanctioned to induce immigration into the Malnad.

(12) Instructions have been issued for the free distribution of quinine to the Malnad people.

(13) A list of roads to be newly formed in the Shimoga District has been prepared and the responsibility for financing and executing these works has been assigned to the Public Works Department and the District Board according to the importance of these roads and

(14) Lastly, a scheme has been quite lately sanctioned on the repeated representations of Mr. Hosakoppa Krishna Rao for the supply of labourers to the arecanut garden owners through a Government agency.

8. As regards the results of the operations under the Malnad Improvement Scheme, the works executed and the improvements effected so far were briefly reviewed by Government in their Order of 23rd June 1917 while sanctioning the continuance of the scheme for one year from 1st July 1917 and in greater detail in their Order of 22nd May 1918 directing the continuance of the scheme for a further period of five years.

The three District Committees have since submitted reports giving an account of the work done under the Malnad Improvement Scheme from its inception in 1914 to the end of December 1918. The result of the activities of these special agencies for the improvement of the Malnad during the above period is briefly summarised below:—

Three thousand six hundred and thirty-five acres of land in about 1,000 villages have been cleared of rank vegetation. Four hundred and nine new wells have been sunk and 62 old wells improved. Drains have been constructed in about 400 villages. New roads of a total length of about 100 miles have been formed and a few bridges also constructed. Two itinerant, 4 semi-itinerant and 6 temporary Dispensaries have been opened and 21 Midwives have been trained and employed under the Malnad Improvement Scheme. The free distribution of quinine has materially benefited the people in affording them protection against malaria. Eighteen special Vaccinators have been employed who have been able to vaccinate over 15,000 persons. Pamphlets on sanitary and hygienic subjects have been distributed and lectures delivered. Sanitary surveys have been conducted in about 300 villages. A Debt Survey has also been made in a few places. About 400 families have been induced to settle in the Malnad with offers of arable land and advances of money. Eighty-five villages have been provided with extensions and 133 villages shifted to more sanitary sites and, 42 Model Villages have been formed.

To these must be added the construction of the Tramway line to Narasimharajapura and its proposed extension to Koppa, the establishment of Iron Works at Benkipur and the consequent opening up of the Lakkavalli and Jager Valley forests, which, though not as the direct result of the Malnad Improvement scheme, are likely to bring about the economic development of the Malnad in the northern side of the Bababudan Hills and increase, to a great extent, the prosperity of the people.

The total value of all these works, apart from those undertaken and executed by the people themselves and the special Departments of Government amounts to about Rs. 5 lakhs, inclusive of the establishment and other incidental charges.

9. Considering the vast extent of territory to be dealt with and the large population, the amelioration of whose condition is the object in view, the results so far achieved are satisfactory, but much more remains to be done. The demand is insistent for more roads, more railway communications, more Dispensaries, for occupations for the unemployed and for measures for relieving indebtedness.

Suggestions have been made for the creation of large landed estates in the Malnad, for the extension to local land-less Halepaikas and Panchamas of the concessions offered to intending settlers from outside, for bringing the restoration of minor tanks within the purview of the Malnad Improvement Scheme, for the removal of the restrictions on the tapping and consumption of Bagani toddy, etc.

A desire for improving the existing organization has also been expressed in some quarters and it is felt that greater co-ordination of effort of the Malnad Improvement Committees and the Departments concerned is necessary. A larger infusion of the non-official element in the Central Committee has been proposed and the formation of Special Malnad Improvement Committees for every Malnad Taluk has also been suggested.

10. In their Order of 22nd May 1918, Government have sanctioned an annual allotment of Rs. 2 lakhs for a further period of 5 years for the Malnad Improvement Scheme. The question for consideration is how these funds can be utilised to the best advantage and what improvements should be introduced in the organization and working of the Scheme.

Area under operation.

11. The areas brought under the operations of the Malnad Improvement Scheme are the well-known Malnad tracts of the Shimoga, Kadur and Hassan Districts to which are added certain Hoblies of the Semi-Malnad Taluks. These Malnad tracts do not form a compact area and are in no way alike as regards physical features, homogeneity of population and economic conditions. These parts can be roughly divided into two zones, the Coffee Zone and the Areca-nut Zone. The entire Taluk of Saklespur, parts of Belur Taluk, parts of Mudgere, the upper slopes of the Bababudans in the Chikmagalur Taluk come within the former zone. The Koppa, Tirthahalli, Nagar, Sagar and Sorab Taluks come within the latter zone. There is a shade of difference between the Taluks of Sagar and Sorab and the other Taluks in this zone, but this may be overlooked. Coffee is grown in parts of Koppa and Narasimharajapura Taluks, but not to any large extent and the

industry is not taken up by the local people. The inhabitants of what I call the Coffee Zone are fair-looking, strong, well-built and robust in health, and the tract is generally free from malaria except in low-lying valleys. The economic condition of the people too is not bad. The Indian coffee planter is no doubt involved in debts, but not to any large extent. With a little thrift and co-operation, he can earn a decent living from his estate. The condition of labour too is not bad. Coffee estates afford employment to a large number of indigenous coolies in all seasons of the year and in the picking season, labour has to be imported from the West Coast. The inhabitants of the Areca-nut Zone present a marked contrast to these people. There, the raiyat population is short in stature and sickly in appearance and presents a famished look. Paddy fields and areca nut gardens are the only sources of employment and the conditions of labour are not conducive to a vigorous and healthy growth. These characteristics should be borne in mind in framing any scheme for the improvement of the Malnad.

Organisation of the Central Committee.

12. The constitution of the Central Committee requires a radical change. At present the senior Deputy Commissioner for the time being in any of the three districts becomes the President of the Central Committee, and as matters stand now, the Deputy Commissioner of Hassan is the senior Deputy Commissioner in the Malnad tract and his Secretary is stationed at Shimoga. The Deputy Commissioner of the Hassan District can have no adequate idea of the Koppa and the Tirthahalli Malnads and similarly the Deputy Commissioner of Shimoga will not be competent to deal with the Malnad conditions of Saklespur and the Bababudan Hills. The President of the Central Committee who has to co-ordinate the work of the District Committees and guide their deliberations should naturally be a person who has a thorough knowledge of the conditions prevailing in all the tracts. He should be a Provincial Officer and failing him, a Member of Government. On the Central Committee will have to sit the Senior Surgeon, the Sanitary Commissioner and I would also include the Revenue Commissioner, the Chief Engineer, the Director of Industries and the Conservator of Forests. The President of the Central Committee must be an officer of equal if not of a higher grade. I would suggest a Member of Government to be the President. One of the Assistant Secretaries to Government may be the Secretary to the Committee. The Committee may meet once in three months in some Malnad place in each Malnad District by turns. Besides the official members mentioned above, I would suggest a non-official representative on the Committee from each of the Districts. The composition of the Central Board will thus be as follows:—

President.—A Member of Government.

Members:—1-3 The Deputy Commissioners of the Districts of Hassan, Kadur and Shimoga.
4. The Senior Surgeon.
5. The Sanitary Commissioner.
6. The Conservator of Forests.
7. The Chief Engineer.
8. The Director of Industries.
9.—11. Three non-official representatives.
12. The Special Forest Officer.

The necessity for the Sanitary Commissioner and the Senior Surgeon being on the Committee is obvious, since sanitation and medical relief figure prominently on the programme of Malnad Improvements. As the formation of village forests as a part of the Malnad scheme is necessary and as questions regarding Forest conservation and settlement in the Malnad arise, the presence of the Conservator of Forests is equally necessary. The Chief Engineer is needed for the opening up of communications in the Malnad and the Director of Industries and the Special Forest officer for the development of the Malnad Industries.

District Committees.

13. The District Committees may continue as at present with the Deputy Commissioner as the Chairman and may consist of the following members:—

1 to 3. The Sub-Division Officers of Revenue Sub-Divisions.
4. The District Sanitary Officer
5. The District Medical Officer.
6. The Executive Engineer.
7. The Secretary to the District Board in Economic matters.
8. The District Forest Officer, and

Non-official representatives one from each of the Malnad Taluks the Personal Assistant to the Deputy Commissioner being the Secretary.

It may be urged that, when there is a District Board to look after the local interests of the District generally and a Taluk Board to look after the special interests of the Taluk, especially when under the scheme of Local Self-Government recently promulgated, these Boards can also do the work of economic development, there is no necessity for a separate District Committee for the Malnad Improvement and it is sufficient if the Government make allotments to these Boards out of the Malnad Improvement funds to supplement the resources of the several Boards. But these Boards cannot devote their undivided attention to the Malnad Improvement as within their respective areas there are Maidan Taluks also. Besides a statutory body is bound by rules and formalities which cannot very well be observed when extraordinary remedies are demanded to meet special situations. The Central Committee has to exercise controlling powers which it cannot very well do over a statutory body. I would therefore continue the present Central and District Committees with their constitution altered as indicated above.

Agency.

14. When the scheme was sanctioned, a separate agency was organised to carry out the Malnad Improvement work. It has no doubt done some appreciable amount of work at an enormous cost. But it had the effect also of alienating the sympathy of the ordinary Revenue Agency which under our system of administration is accustomed to do all the improvement work whether it be in the matter of public health or of improving the material well-being and prosperity of the people. The Amildar stood aloof as also the Sub-Division Officer. Recent changes made in abolishing the post of Special Revenue Officer and entrusting the task to the Sub-Division Officers are, I think, in the right direction. There is no need also for a separate clerical establishment. The ordinary establishment of the Sub-Division Office should

be able to cope with the work especially when it is relieved of a lot of Local Fund and Municipal work it was doing before the present Local Boards and Municipal Regulations came into force. In the Shimoga District, the Judicial Clerk who has been set free by the separation of Judicial and Executive functions can be easily employed on this work. Under the recent Sanitary Re-organization Scheme, each Taluk will have a Sanitary Inspector and his services can very well be utilised by the Malnad Improvement Committees. The special establishment of Overseers and Sub-Overseers may continue and they should be employed in areas where large works are going on. Under the scheme for improving the water supply of villages, provision has been made for the employment of a staff to supervise the construction of wells. This agency may also be utilised. As the work of economic development and sanitary improvements comes within the scope of the ordinary duties of the Revenue and the Sanitary Officers, they are not entitled to any special allowance and the allowances hitherto given to them out of the Malnad Improvement funds should be discontinued.

The Amildar should be held responsible for the improvements in his taluk. He may also be assisted by a special committee appointed for the purpose. As recommended by Mr. Matthan, a Public Works Officer of the rank of an Assistant Engineer may be given to each of the District Boards and his pay may be borne by the District Boards and the Malnad Improvement Funds in the proportion of 2 to 1.

Future Programme.

15. As regards the programme of future work, much has been achieved in the matter of sanitation and medical relief and much more remains to be done. In spite of the elaborate instructions laid down no systematic work on a regular plan has been done. The efforts hitherto made have been too diffuse and desultory to produce any tangible results. The medical and sanitary requirements of a great portion of the tract have not been studied, and no laboratory experiments have been made to identify the special breed of mosquitoes that spread Malaria or to discover the parasites of diseases peculiar to the Malnad. No systematic Disease Survey has taken place. The registration of vital statistics is as defective as before and no attempt has been made to solve the problems so clearly set out in paragraph 11 of the Government Order of 24th February 1914. Wells have been sunk in several places but without due regard to the needs of the places and some of them have already run dry. Maternities and Dispensaries have not been opened in several places and the supply of Midwives is quite insufficient to meet the demand.

The first thing that has to be done is to prepare a list of notoriously unhealthy places and concentrate all our attention and energy towards their improvement, taking as many of them for sanitary improvement and medical relief at a time as funds permit. Large areas are shown as having been cleared of lantana both by private people and Government agency, which I was not able to verify in my tour. No systematic plan has been laid down for the destruction of the same. A practical and workable scheme should be framed and vigorously carried out.

Roads and Communications.

16. *Economic Development.*—The urgent need of the Malnad of the Arecanut Zone is its economic development. But to secure this object, it is essential that the

roads and communications in the Malnad should appreciably increase and inaccessible places should be opened out. There are, as the Economic Superintendent of the Kadur District told me, some *terra incognita* or no man's lands in the Taluk of Chikmagalur and, as reported by Mr. Matthan, the Shimoga District is very backward in the matter of communications. In their Order of 6th March 1917, Government have sanctioned the construction of 8 important roads in the Shimoga District at Government cost. But only two out of these have been actually constructed, and no provision has been made in the current year's budget for the construction of the other roads. The Tramway Lines from Benkipur will open up only a small part of Shimoga and Narasimharajapura Taluks and will not be of much use to the greater part of the Shimoga District. The programme of work outlined in the Government Order referred to above should be speedily carried out by the Public Works Department. As regards the Local Fund Roads, they may be constructed under the supervision of the Engineers proposed to be appointed under the District Boards.

Settlements.

17. The formation of new settlements has also been undertaken by the Malnad Improvement Committees. It is reported that over 400 families have been settled and 1,698 acres of land given to them for cultivation. I inspected the settlements at Sangamesvarpet and Ginagadde in the Kadur District and from enquiries made they appear to be a success so far. No case of desertion was brought to notice and recoveries of advances made have been satisfactory. But the people that have settled are mostly foreigners and little or no encouragement has been given to the local land-less classes. The question is a difficult one as it will unsettle labour conditions in the Malnad and will have to be worked out with care.

Malnad indebtedness.

18. There is no doubt that the average ryot in the Areca-nut Zone is over head and ears in debt and so is his brother the coffee planter in the Coffee Zone. The former is bound hand and foot to the Brahmin sowcar who deals in areca-nut and the latter to the Marvari. When the *halat* was abolished, it was fondly hoped that the areca-nut grower would free himself from the bondage of the sowcar and that the Agricultural Banks started for the benefit of the coffee planter would prove his salvation. But these hopes have not been realised. The areca-nut gardens and coffee estates are fettered by mortgages and hypothecation and the owners are dependent upon the money lenders for working expenses which are advanced to them at usurious rates of interest. In spite of the rise in prices of areca-nut and coffee, the landowner is hardly able to eke out his livelihood. He is ill-clothed and starved and is hardly able to bear the inclemencies of the weather. Added to this, the change in his habits, the discarding of the old *kambli* and his partiality to arrack and brandy in place of the wholesome drinks of *Akki Bhoja* and *Bagani* toddy have completed his ruin. Co-operative Societies are the only means of relieving his indebtedness. A scheme of Land Mortgage Banks has been advocated by many prominent men in the Malnad, but the type of the bank proposed is one financed entirely by the Government. This will be another kind of agricultural bank in the successful working of which the members will have little or no interest. The coffee

estates have at least a market value on account of competition by foreigners. But areca-nut gardens have no market value at all. I say this from my experience as a Munsiff, Sub-Judge and District Judge in the Malnad. Areca-nut gardens put up for sale in court auctions used to fetch hardly any price on account of the paucity of bidders. It is out of the question that such banks should be started in the Malnad. The only other way besides the co-operative societies is to advance money to the areca-nut growers upon the security of the crops. This system worked well last year as regards coffee estates and the advances given to the coffee planters have been almost fully recovered.

Labour.

19. Labour difficulty in the areca-nut Malnad is greatly felt chiefly because the local labour classes, the Holeyas, have become, as a European Planter of long-standing told me, practically extinct owing to the apathy and indifference of the landed classes. The Holeyar population has been ill-fed, ill-clothed and ill-housed and has become a prey to the Malnad diseases. The areca-nut grower is dependent upon the West Coast labourer for the cultivation of his gardens and paddy fields. A scheme for the employment of labour has been recently sanctioned by the Government and the successful working of it depends upon the business capacity and enterprise of the areca-nut garden owners.

Forests.

20. My tour in the Malnad has convinced me of the necessity of establishing village forests both in the interests of the ryots and conservation of the valuable forests. The indiscriminate exploiting of the forests by the Malnad ryot for the sake of *soppu* (green manure), timber, etc., should be put a stop to. It should be the special object of the Malnad Improvement Committees to carry out the scheme of village forests and see that it is made a success.

There are now a few plantations of rubber in the Hassan and Kadur Districts. In view of the growing demand for this commodity, the question of expanding its cultivation, for which there is considerable scope in the Malnad, requires special attention. The cultivation of tea and cinchona should also be encouraged. The question of popularising fruit cultivation on the Bababudan Hills also requires consideration.

Industries.

21. There are hardly any industries worth the name in the Areca-nut Zone of the Malnad. The problem how to employ the abundant forest material for the establishment of industries is the work of a specialist which will bear fruit after years of toil and experiment. The Iron Works will open up a great part of the Malnad but what is wanted is a subsidiary occupation to the ryot during the rainy season to prevent him from indulging in drinks. Up till now, no industry suitable to his tastes is suggested and none of course is followed. The hope expressed by the Government in their Order No. 6561-3—San. 72-17-2, dated 22nd May 1918 that the Malnad people should invest half of the capital outlay estimated therein for the improvement of the Malnad in productive works is at best a dream and will take a long time for its realization.

Administrative changes.

22. The clubbing together of different hamlets in the pure Malnad parts and constituting them into a Village hampers progress in all directions. These hamlets

are so far apart from one another that effective supervision is impossible. It is extremely difficult to form Village Committees for the improvement of the villages and the registration of births and deaths to some degree of accuracy is well nigh impossible. It came to my notice in my tour that this part of the Malnad suffered very badly from influenza and yet the returns show that the Kadur District suffered the least from this epidemic. It seems to me that each hamlet should be constituted into a village with a separate patel at the head. This will remove not only the evils mentioned above but facilitate also the establishment of village forests.

In view of the formation of the taluks of Narasimharajapura and Balehonnur, a separate Revenue Sub-Division will have to be constituted with jurisdiction over these two taluks and the taluk of Koppa, with headquarters at Koppa or Narasimharajapura. It is also necessary to establish a Special Magistrate's Court at one of these two places. If a Sub-Division is constituted as stated above, then Kadur and Tarikere will form another revenue division. Having regard to the fact that the Koppa and Narasimharajapura Malnad is akin to the Shimoga Malnad and is more easily accessible to the latter place than to Chikmagalur, it strikes one at first sight that the two Taluks will be better administered if they are included in the Shimoga District, but this will involve a change in the constitution of other Districts and I am not therefore prepared to recommend the measure.

* * *

23. As the Malnad Improvement Scheme has been found to be very beneficial, I would extend it to the other unhealthy areas such as Hunsur, Seringapatam, Borankanve and Marikanave.

BANGALORE,
27th August 1919.

MIR HAMZA HUSSEIN,
Member of Council.

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